

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (original): A black ink for inkjet recording, comprising an aqueous medium having dissolved or dispersed therein at least one dye in which  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  of the absorption spectrum in an aqueous solution is in the region from 500 and 700 nm and the half-value width in the absorption spectrum of a dilute solution standardized to an absorbance of 1.0 is 100 nm or more.

2. (original): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1, which comprises an aqueous medium having dissolved or dispersed therein at least one dye in which  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  of the absorption spectrum in an aqueous solution is in the region from 500 and 700 nm and the half-value width in the absorption spectrum of a dilute solution standardized to an absorbance of 1.0 is 100 nm or more, and at least one dye contained in said ink has an oxidation potential positive than 1.0 V (vs SCE).

3. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said ink comprises an aqueous medium having dissolved or dispersed therein at least one dye in which  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  of the absorption spectrum in an aqueous solution is in the region from 500 and 700 nm, the half-value width in the absorption spectrum of a dilute solution standardized to an absorbance of 1.0 is 100 nm or more, and the oxidation potential is positive than 1.0 V (vs SCE).

4. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein when a black square symbol of JIS code 2223 is printed in a 48-point size and the density of a selected portion having a visual reflection density ( $D_{\text{vis}}$ ) of 0.90 to

1.10 on the printed face is defined as the initial density and when this printed matter is enforcedly discolored by using an ozone discoloration tester capable of constantly generating 5 ppm of ozone and the enforced discoloration rate constant ( $k_{vis}$ ) is determined by applying a first-order chemical reaction rule to the relationship of reflection density·time until the visual reflection density ( $D_{vis}$ ) decreases to 80% of the initial density, the enforced discoloration rate constant ( $k_{vis}$ ) is  $5.0 \times 10^{-2}$  [hour<sup>-1</sup>] or less.

5. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein when a black square symbol of JIS code 2223 is printed in a 48-point size and the densities of selected C, M and Y three color portions each having a reflection density ( $D_R$ ,  $D_G$ ,  $D_B$ ) of 0.90 to 1.10 as measured with status A filter light are defined as the initial densities and when this printed matter is enforcedly discolored by using an ozone discoloration tester capable of constantly generating 5 ppm of ozone and three enforced discoloration rate constants ( $k_R$ ,  $k_G$ ,  $k_B$ ) are determined by applying a first-order chemical reaction rule to the relationship of reflection density·time until the reflection densities ( $D_R$ ,  $D_G$ ,  $D_B$ ) decrease to 80% of respective initial densities, the ratio (R) of the maximum value to the minimum value of these three rate constants is 1.2 or less.

6. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the dye in which  $\lambda_{max}$  of the absorption spectrum in an aqueous solution is in the region from 500 and 700 nm and the half-value width in the absorption spectrum of a dilute solution standardized to an absorbance of 1.0 is 100 nm or more is a dye represented by the following formula (1):

Formula (1):



wherein A, B and C each independently represents an aromatic or heterocyclic group which may be substituted, and m and n each represents 0 or an integer of 1 or more.

7. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 6, which comprises at least one compound represented by formula (A):

Formula (A):



wherein X represents a group represented by  $-N(Q_1)-Q_2$ , Z represents a group represented by  $-N(Q_1)-Q_2$  or  $-O-Q_3$ , Y represents a group represented by  $-W-(G)_k-(H)_n-$ , W and/or H represents a group represented by  $-CO-$ ,  $-SO_2-$  or  $-PO(Q_4)-$ , G represents a divalent linking group,  $Q_1$  to  $Q_4$  each represents a hydrogen atom, an amino group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group, a heteroaryl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, a heterocyclic oxy group, a heteroaryloxy group, an alkylamino group, an arylamino group, a heterocyclic amino group or a heteroaryl amino group, X and Z may combine with each other to form a ring, and k and n each represents 0 or 1.

8. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 7, which further comprises at least one dye having  $\lambda_{max}$  of the region from 350 to 500 nm.

9. (original): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least one dye having  $\lambda_{max}$  of the region from 350 to 500 nm is a dye represented by formula (1).

10. (original): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 9, which comprises at least one dye having  $\lambda_{max}$  of the region from 500 to 700 nm and the at least one dye having  $\lambda_{max}$  of the region from 350 to 500 nm, wherein said dyes both have an oxidation potential positive than 1.0 V (vs SCE) and both are a dye represented by formula (1).

11. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 9 or 10, which comprises at least one dye having  $\lambda_{max}$  of the region from 500 to 700 nm and the at least one dye having  $\lambda_{max}$  in the region from 350 to 500 nm, wherein said dyes both have an

enforced discoloration rate constant ( $k_{vis}$ ) defined in claim 5 of  $5.0 \times 10^{-2}$  [hour $^{-1}$ ] or less and both are a dye represented by formula (1).

12. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 11, which comprises at least one organic solvent not containing a heteroatom other than an oxygen atom.

13. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 12, which comprises an aqueous medium having dissolved and/or dispersed therein at least two dyes each having  $\lambda_{max}$  of the region from 500 to 700 nm and the half-value width of 100 nm or more in the absorption spectrum of a dilute solution standardized to an absorbance of 1.0.

14. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein a water-soluble organic solvent having a boiling point of 150°C or more is used.

15. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein the organic solvent used for said ink comprises at least one organic solvent having a boiling point of 150°C or more and at least one organic solvent having a boiling point of 150°C or less.

16. (currently amended): The black ink for inkjet recording as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 15, which comprises: a water-miscible organic solvent having a boiling point of 100°C or more in an amount of 20 mass% or more based on the entire amount of the ink; and the compound represented by formula (A) in an amount of 0.02 to 2 mass% based on the entire amount of the ink.

17. (currently amended): An inkjet recording method comprising using the inkjet recording ink claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 16.

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18. (original): The inkjet recording method as claimed in claim 17, comprising discharging ink droplets according to recording signals on an image-receiving material to record an image on the image-receiving material, the image-receiving material comprising a support having thereon an image-receiving layer containing inorganic white pigment particles, wherein the ink droplet comprises the ink for inkjet recording claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16.